## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 RSR-01 ( ADP ) W

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O R 121543 Z MAR 73 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4735 INFO USCINCSO

**UNCLAS LIMA 1553** 

E. O. 11652: N/ A TAGS: PGOV, PE

SUBJ: MERCADO GIVEN CERTAIN INTERIM PRESIDENTIAL POWERS

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

 FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE FROM REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA DISTRIBUTED TO LIMA NEWSPAPERS LATE LAST NIGHT (LA PRENSA SAYS
 AM) AND PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S EL PERUANO, OFFICIAL GAZETTE:

## (EMBASSY TRANSLATION)

"AFTER THE SURGICAL INTERVENTIONS TO WHICH
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC HAS BEEN
SUBMITTED, AND ALTHOUGH HE IS ABLE TO
CONTINUE EXERCIZING THE FUNCTIONS PROPER
TO HIS POSITION, HE MUST, BECAUSE OF
MEDICAL ORDERS, TEMPORARILY AVOID SIGNING
THE MANY LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE
ACTS REQUIRED FOR THE RUNNING OF THE
COUNTRY. THE REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA, CONSTITUTED
BY THE COMMANDING GENERALS OF THE ARMED FORCE,
HAS AGREED UNANIMOUSLY AND IN USE OF THE POWERS
BELONGING TO IT, THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SHALL BE THE ONE WHO SIGNS
ALL THE LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTS
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THAT MAY BE REQUIRED, AND WHO RECEIVES DIPLOMATIC AGENTS, SO LONG AS THE MENTIONED TEMPORARY SITUATION PERSISTS".

- 2. PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS GEN. EDGARDO MARCADO JARRIN, WHO ALSO MINWAR AND COMMANDING GENERAL OF ARMY, AND THUS ONE OF THREE MEMBERS OF REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA.
- 3. DURING WEEKEND RUMORS SPREAD THAT PRES VELASCO HAD DIED. JUNTA ISSUED STATEMENT MARCH 10 DENOUNCING
  " ALARMIST AND MALEVOLENT RUMORS" ABOUT PRESIDENT'S HEALTH AND ASSERTING COUNTRY KEPT " VERACIOUSLY INFORMED" ON SUBJECT.
  BELCHER

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<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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To: ARA SECSTATE WASHDC USCINCSO

Type: TE

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